

Year of King Ak-Sar-Ben XIV Shows Wonderful Progress

Great has been the reign of King Ak-Sar-Ben XIV. No other king in any other year has had as prosperous a reign or seen as many improvements within his realm—as much building of homes and places of business by his subjects, as large an increase in material wealth as shown in the stacks of gold in the banks—as has King Ak-Sar-Ben XIV, who will within a few days abdicate his throne and turn over to King Ak-Sar-Ben XV the duties of looking after the welfare of the loyal subjects.

Prosperity in an ever increasing degree has always been apparent in every corner of the realm of the retiring king and wherever the monarch or his lord high chamberlain might chance to look they could see naught but happy, prosperous and contented subjects; and busy, withal.

These subjects have put in a busy twelve month in erecting more large business buildings, magnificent dwellings and modest homes than in any one year since the inauguration of King Ak-Sar-Ben I, or of any year for some time before the house of Ak-Sar-Ben came into existence.

They have been busy in laying more miles of pavement and in building the largest sewer west of Chicago and several other smaller sewers.

They have been busy in piling up in the banks more money on deposit than in any other year, in bringing the bank clearings above any former record, in swelling the receipts of the postoffice more than any other year, in increasing the jobbing trade in a remarkable degree.

These subjects have been busy in raising more babies, building more churches, endowing more schools and buying more parks than during the reign of any other king. "Busy" has been the watchword of the Omahan during 1909—and the quick lunch has prospered as never before, as have also the manufacturers of dyspepsia tablets.

Building operations during the year show a more appreciable gain, a gain which can be more readily seen and understood by the most lowly subject, than the prosperity evidenced by bank clearings or wholesale trade. But the building story is a big story.

While many buildings, large and small, have been

completed during the reign of the present king, most of the larger buildings of a public or semi-public nature are now in course of construction. These buildings total nearly \$4,500,000, small structures and homes not being included in this figure. Among the buildings in course of construction are county and municipal, \$1,050,000; school, \$418,000; hospital, \$245,000, and churches, \$118,000.

The two largest buildings to be started during the reign of the retiring king are the Douglas county court house and the City National Bank building, each to cost \$1,000,000. Next in line comes the Brandeis theater building, with an expenditure of \$450,000, and the chapel for the Academy of the Sacred Heart, with a cost as great. The addition to the Creighton Memorial St. Joseph hospital, to cost \$320,000, next has preference according to expenditure, while the addition to the High school, to cost \$175,000; the new Omaha View and Forest school buildings, each to cost \$100,000, and the car barns at Tenth and Pierce streets being erected by the Omaha & Council Bluffs Street Railway company and to cost \$100,000, complete the expenditure requiring six figures.

Other buildings of a public or semi-public nature now in the course of construction, and to cost \$10,000 or over, are among the following:

W. T. Graham, hotel and store building	\$80,000
First Church of Christ, Scientist	70,000
John L. Kennedy, store building	65,000
Omaha Fireproof Storage Co., warehouse	65,000
Creighton University laboratory	43,000
Elks' building	40,000
H. Dupuy, warehouse	40,000
Bee publishing house	30,000
Merrim & Holmquist grain elevator	30,000
Catholic Cathedral	28,000
Hamilton apartment house addition	28,000



NEW BRANDEIS THEATER AND OFFICE BUILDING (BEING ERECTED).

Ames avenue engine house	28,000
Immanuel Deaconess' hospital	25,000
S. D. Mercer company, hotel	25,000
Cornish apartment house	24,000
Nebraska-Iowa Grain Co., elevator	20,000
Klopp & Bartlett, store building	18,000
Sherman & McConnell, garage	17,000
C. W. Partridge apartment house	17,000
Mrs. M. F. Patrick, store building	14,000
Gould Dietz, garage	14,000
H. Kraene, store building	13,000
Mrs. Sophie Lehman, store building	11,000
First German Presbyterian church	10,000
Greek church	10,000
Imperial Imp. Co., store and office building	10,000
Nebraska Fuel Co., coal elevators	10,000
Smith Brick company kiln	10,000

These larger buildings now in course of construction total \$4,385,000, but to this must be added a number of other large structures already completed and hundreds of dwellings, both large and small, either completed or in course of construction.

Among the larger structures completed during the reign of the retiring king are the following:

John Deere building	\$300,000
Methodist hospital	150,000
Bishop Clarkson hospital	150,000
Y. W. C. A. building	135,000
Loose-Wiles cracker factory	85,000
International Harvester company building	65,000
People's Ice and Cold Storage Co., factory	50,000
Lothrop school addition	47,000
Auditorium improvements	40,000
Richardson Bros. apartment house	40,000
Manney mills and elevators	37,000
J. S. Bacon, stores and flats	30,000
St. Philomenas church	30,000
C. W. Hull, warehouse	30,000
Franklin school addition	25,000
City jail	25,000
Douglas county hospital buildings	20,000
Spring street street car barns	14,000
J. Treitschke, stores and flats	10,000

Four hundred and forty residences, costing over \$2,500 and under \$5,000, have been erected, or are now in course of construction; 120 residences, costing more than \$5,000 and under \$10,000, have been erected, or are now in course of construction, and twenty residences, costing over \$10,000, and some as high as \$20,000, have been erected during the reign of the present king.

Contained in the above tables are large expenditures for buildings of a public nature, including charitable and educational buildings. Along educational lines the people during the closing reign of the prosperity king have made big strides and have spent their money, not lavishly, but still not begrudgingly.

The south wing to the High school is well along toward completion, the addition calling for an expenditure of \$175,000, exclusive of interior finishing or fittings. Then another \$200,000 is being spent on the Omaha View and Forest school buildings, while \$47,000 was spent in building an addition to the Lothrop school, making that the largest ward school building in the city, and \$25,000 was spent in building an addition to the Franklin school building. To these expenditures on school buildings for the use of the public must be added other expenditures for private schools. This is headed by an expenditure of \$43,000 for a new laboratory building for the Creighton university.

Among expenditures for buildings of a philanthropic nature, that for the addition to the Creighton Memorial St. Joseph hospital takes front rank. This addition is to cost \$320,000, exclusive of furnishings. The completed hospital will cover two entire blocks of ground kind in the entire west.

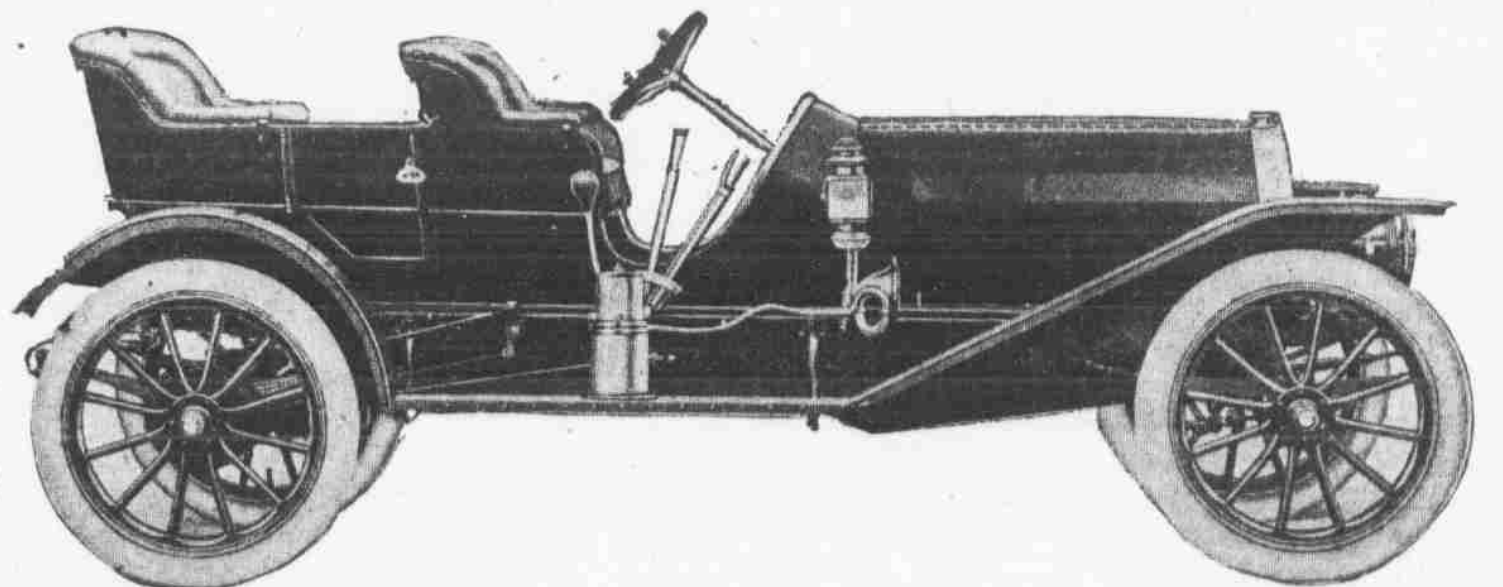
Two other hospital buildings were completed during

(Continued on Page Four.)

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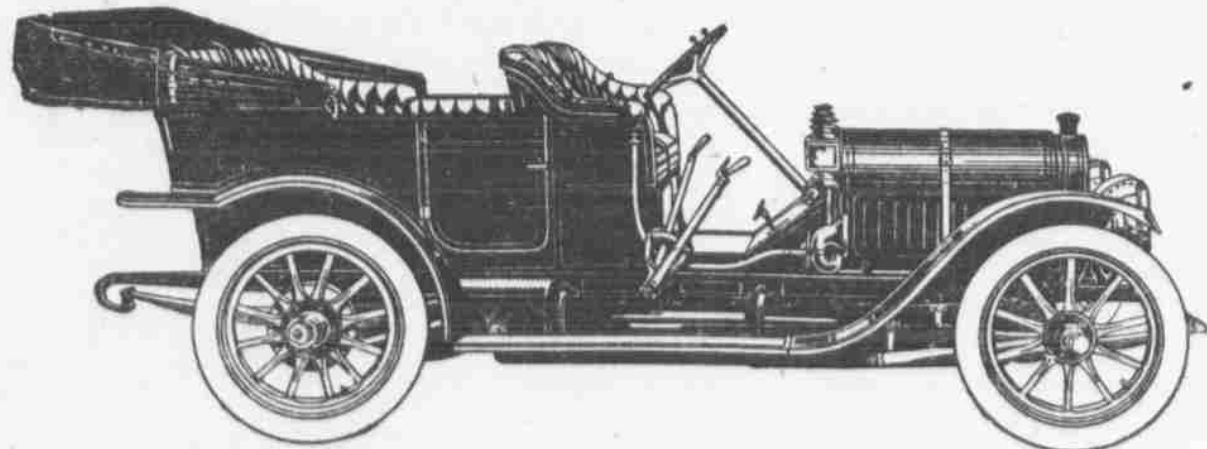
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